



# VMRC NEWS

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For Immediate Release  
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## **VMRC Adopts Specific Criteria to Help Property Owners Recover from Hurricane**

NEWPORT NEWS, VA. – (October 14, 2003) The Virginia Marine Resources Commission has adopted specific criteria that will enable shoreline property owners to more quickly restore water structures damaged by Hurricane Isabel.

There are, however, four major requirements for owners to receive the expedited authorization:

- 1) An abbreviated permit request and certification **MUST** be filed with the agency, 2) the structure to be restored or reconstructed must have already been authorized and in serviceable condition immediately prior to the storm, 3) the structure must be the same size or smaller than the original, and
- (4) the restoration work must be initiated by January 1, 2004 and finished by June 30, 2004.

The action was taken “in an effort to address the impacts attributable to Hurricane Isabel on the healthy, safety and general welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth, and in an attempt to expedite the return of impacted areas and structures to pre-event conditions insofar as is possible,” the resolution stated.

Robert Grabb, VMRC Chief of Habitat Management, stressed that the emergency resolution was in keeping with existing state law and the intent of Emergency Order 56 issued earlier by Governor Mark Warner.

The required VMRC forms can be obtained from local wetlands boards or from the agency’s habitat management division offices.

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